

13 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: The Chou-Nehru Talks


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1. Chou En lai's forthcoming visit to New Delhi

(19-25 April) represents a Chinese effort to restore the outward Sino-Indian cordiality which was shattered by border clashes early in 1959. Chou is to be accompanied by a high-powered negotiating team, and Chinese expectations are apparently high. By contrast, Nehru is approaching the talks with considerable skepticism.

2. While both sides are evidently desirous of a settlement, and will probably so express themselves in a communique, neither is likely to concede much during next week's meetings. Nehru is under extreme pressure from the Indian parliament and public opinion to resist Chinese claims, and Chou will almost certainly not offer sufficient concessions to make an agreement possible at this time. In these circumstances, a decision to negotiate further appears the most likely outcome.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

  
SHERMAN KENT  
Chairman

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